

HOUSE BILL No. 1690

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-26-11; IC 31-34-20-5; IC 31-37-19-26.

Synopsis: Legal settlement. Provides that if a contributing reason a student resides with a legal guardian or custodian is to reside in a particular school corporation, the student's legal settlement remains in the school corporation in which the student's parent resides. Requires the state superintendent of public instruction to prepare a manual to assist individuals in establishing legal guardianships over students.

Effective: July 1, 2007.

Cheney

January 26, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

C
o
p
y



Introduced

First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1690

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-26-11-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.13-2006,
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. (a) The legal settlement of a student is
4 governed by the following provisions:

5 (1) If the student:

6 (A) is less than eighteen (18) years of age; or

7 (B) is at least eighteen (18) years of age but is not
8 emancipated;

9 the legal settlement of the student is in the attendance area of the
10 school corporation where the student's parents reside.

11 (2) If the student's mother and father, in a situation to which
12 subdivision (1) otherwise applies, are divorced or separated, the
13 legal settlement of the student is the school corporation whose
14 attendance area contains the residence of the parent with whom
15 the student is living, in the following situations:

16 (A) If a court order has not been made establishing the custody
17 of the student.

C
o
p
y



(B) Except as provided in subdivision (3), if both parents have agreed on the parent or person with whom the student will live.

(C) If the parent granted custody of the student has abandoned the student.

In the event of a dispute between the parents of the student, or between the parents and a student at least eighteen (18) years of age, the legal settlement of the student shall be determined as otherwise provided in this section.

(3) If, in a situation in which subdivision (1) otherwise applies, the student's mother and father are divorced or separated, and if a court order grants the student's:

(A) mother;

(B) father; or

(C) both mother and father;

custody of the student, the legal settlement of the student is the school corporation whose attendance area contains the residence of the mother or father, as elected under section 2.5(a) of this chapter. If the custodial parent (or the student, if at least eighteen (18) years of age) does not make an election under section 2.5(a) of this chapter, the legal settlement of the student is the school corporation whose attendance area contains the residence of the parent granted physical custody by the court order.

(4) If the legal settlement of a student, in a situation to which subdivision (1) otherwise applies, cannot reasonably be determined and the student is being supported by, cared for by, and living with some other individual, the legal settlement of the student is in the attendance area of that individual's residence, except where the parents of the student are able to support the student but have placed the student in the home of another individual, or allowed the student to live with another individual, primarily for the purpose of attending school in the attendance area where the other individual resides. The school may, if the facts are in dispute, condition acceptance of the student's legal settlement on the appointment of that individual as legal guardian or custodian of the student, and the date of legal settlement will be fixed to coincide with the commencement of the proceedings for the appointment of a guardian or custodian. However, if a student does not reside with the student's parents because the student's parents are unable to support the child and the child is not residing with an individual other than a parent primarily to attend a particular school, the student's legal settlement is where

C
o
p
y



the student resides; and the establishment of a legal guardianship may not be required by the school. In addition, a legal guardianship or custodianship established solely to attend school in a particular school corporation, does not affect the determination of the legal settlement of the student under this chapter.

~~(5)~~ (4) If a student, to whom subdivision (1) would otherwise apply, is married and living with a spouse, the legal settlement of that student is in the attendance area of the school corporation where the student and the student's spouse reside.

~~(6)~~ (5) If the student's parents:

(A) are living outside the United States due to educational pursuits or a job assignment;

(B) do not maintain a permanent home in any school corporation in the United States; and

(C) have placed the student in the home of another individual; the legal settlement of the student is in the attendance area where the other individual resides.

~~(7)~~ (6) If the student is emancipated, the legal settlement is the attendance area of the school corporation of the student's residence.

~~(8)~~ (7) If a student's legal settlement is changed after the student has begun attending school in a school corporation in any school year, the effective date of change may:

(A) at the election of:

(i) the parent;

(ii) the student, if the student is at least eighteen (18) years of age; or

(iii) a juvenile court conducting a proceeding under IC 31-34-20-5, IC 31-34-21-10, IC 31-37-19-26, or IC 31-37-20-6 (or IC 31-6-4-18.5 before its repeal);

be extended until the end of that semester; or

(B) at the discretion of the school, until the end of that school year.

However, that election, where a student has completed grade 11 in any school year, shall extend to the end of the following school year in grade 12.

~~(9)~~ (8) If a juvenile court has:

(A) made findings of fact concerning the legal settlement of a student under IC 31-34-20-5, IC 31-34-21-10, IC 31-37-19-26, or IC 31-37-20-6 (or IC 31-6-4-18.5 before its repeal); and

(B) jurisdiction over the student under IC 31-34 or IC 31-37;

C
o
p
y



the legal settlement of the student is the attendance area specified as the legal settlement in the latest findings of fact issued by the juvenile court.

(b) A school may, if the facts concerning a student's legal settlement are in dispute, condition acceptance of the student's legal settlement on the appointment of an individual who is not the student's parent with whom the student resides as legal guardian or custodian of the student. The date of legal settlement will be fixed to coincide with the commencement of the proceedings for the appointment of a guardian or custodian. If a contributing reason for the establishment of a legal guardianship or custodianship was to attend school in a particular school corporation, the legal guardianship or custodianship does not affect the determination of the legal settlement of the student under this chapter.

SECTION 2. IC 20-26-11-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.13-2006, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 3. The state superintendent shall prepare the form of agreement to be used under section 2(2) of this chapter and a form to be executed by any individual with whom the student is living under section 2(2), 2(3), 2(4), or 2(6) of this chapter. The execution of the form by the individual and its continuance in force is a condition to the application of section 2(2), 2(3), 2(4), or 2(6) of this chapter. The form must contain an agreement of the individual that the individual shall, with respect to dealing with the school corporation and for all other purposes under this article, assume all the duties and be subject to all the liabilities of a parent of the student in the same manner as if the individual were the student's parent. On the execution of that form and for as long as it remains in force, the individual has these duties and liabilities: a manual to:

- (1) assist an individual establishing legal guardianship over an abandoned student under section 2(b) of this chapter in locating available legal aid services for assistance; and**
- (2) set forth procedures and forms for filing, without legal representation, for a legal guardianship in a local court with proper jurisdiction.**

SECTION 3. IC 31-34-20-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.13-2006, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 5. (a) This section applies if a juvenile court:

- (1) places a child;
- (2) changes the placement of a child; or
- (3) reviews the implementation of a decree under IC 31-34-21 of a child placed;

C
o
p
y



in a state licensed private or public health care facility, child care facility, or foster family home.

(b) The juvenile court shall do the following:

(1) Make findings of fact concerning the legal settlement of the child.

(2) Apply IC 20-26-11-2(1) through ~~IC 20-26-11-2(8)~~ **IC 20-26-11-2(7)** to determine where the child has legal settlement.

(3) Include the findings of fact required by this section in:

(A) the dispositional order;

(B) the modification order; or

(C) the other decree;

making or changing the placement of the child.

(c) The juvenile court shall comply with the reporting requirements under IC 20-26-11-9 concerning the legal settlement of the child.

SECTION 4. IC 31-37-19-26, AS AMENDED BY P.L.13-2006, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 26. (a) This section applies if a juvenile court:

(1) places a child;

(2) changes the placement of a child; or

(3) reviews the implementation of a decree under IC 31-37-20 (or IC 31-6-4-19 before its repeal) of a child placed;

in a state licensed private or public health care facility, child care facility, or foster family home.

(b) The juvenile court shall do the following:

(1) Make findings of fact concerning the legal settlement of the child.

(2) Apply IC 20-26-11-2(1) through ~~IC 20-26-11-2(8)~~ **IC 20-26-11-2(7)** to determine where the child has legal settlement.

(3) Include the findings of fact required by this section in the:

(A) dispositional order;

(B) modification order; or

(C) other decree;

making or changing the placement of the child.

(c) The juvenile court shall comply with the reporting requirements under IC 20-26-11-9 concerning the legal settlement of the child.

SECTION 5. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007] **IC 20-26-11-2, as amended by this act, applies only to attendance in a school year beginning after June 30, 2007.**

C
o
p
y

